

Application No. 10/089,841
Amendment Dated 10/14/2005
Reply to Office Action of June 14, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A reaction substrate comprising:

a base having a substantially planar smooth surface and comprising at least one base material selected from the group consisting of glass, plastic, metallic and semiconductor, ~~and~~

a flexible compartment layer comprising a viscoelastic polymer composition perforated by an arrangement of holes, wherein the flexible compartment layer is adapted to removably and automatically adhere to the surface of the base such that the flexible compartment layer can be separated from the base substantially free of damage and without loss of form, adhesion and flexibility, and wherein the holes combine with the base to provide sample reservoirs when the flexible compartment layer is adhered to the base, such that the surface of the base acts as a floor for each of the sample reservoirs, and

a cover mountable by automatic adhesion on a side of the flexible compartment layer opposite of the base, wherein the cover has penetration openings for supplying samples to the sample reservoirs or for removing samples from the sample reservoirs.

18. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, wherein the base comprises a transparent material.

Application No. 10/089,841
Amendment Dated 10/14/2005
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19. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 18, wherein the base is a substantially planar smooth glass plate.

20. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 19, wherein the glass plate has a thickness of a cover glass used in microscopy.

21. (Currently Amended) The reaction substrate of claim 20, wherein the thickness of the cover glass is about 150 μm .

22. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, wherein the viscoelastic polymer composition comprises natural or synthetic rubbers free of adhesive and solvent.

23. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 22, wherein the viscoelastic polymer composition comprises silicon rubber.

24. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 22, wherein the viscoelastic polymer composition adheres to the base without adhesive.

Claims 25-26 (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, wherein the flexible compartment layer further comprises channels and/or storage pots.

28. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, wherein the flexible compartment layer further comprises fluid lines, electrodes and/or sensors.

29. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, in a form of a microtiter or nanotiter plate.

Application No. 10/089,841
Amendment Dated 10/14/2005
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30. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, wherein variations of positions of the sample reservoirs in a direction vertical to a plane of the reaction substrate over the entire surface of the base are less than 250 μm .

31. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 30, wherein the variations are less than 150 μm .

32. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 30, wherein the variations are less than 100 μm .

33. (Previously Presented) The reaction substrate of claim 17, adapted for:

identifying and characterizing synthetic or biological objects;

identifying and characterizing chemical compounds;

identifying and/or validating targets;

searching for biologically active substances and/or pharmaceutical substances;

identifying conductive structures;

genome analysis;

proteome analysis;

cleaning and concentrating substrates; or

evolutionary optimizing of biologically relevant macromolecules.